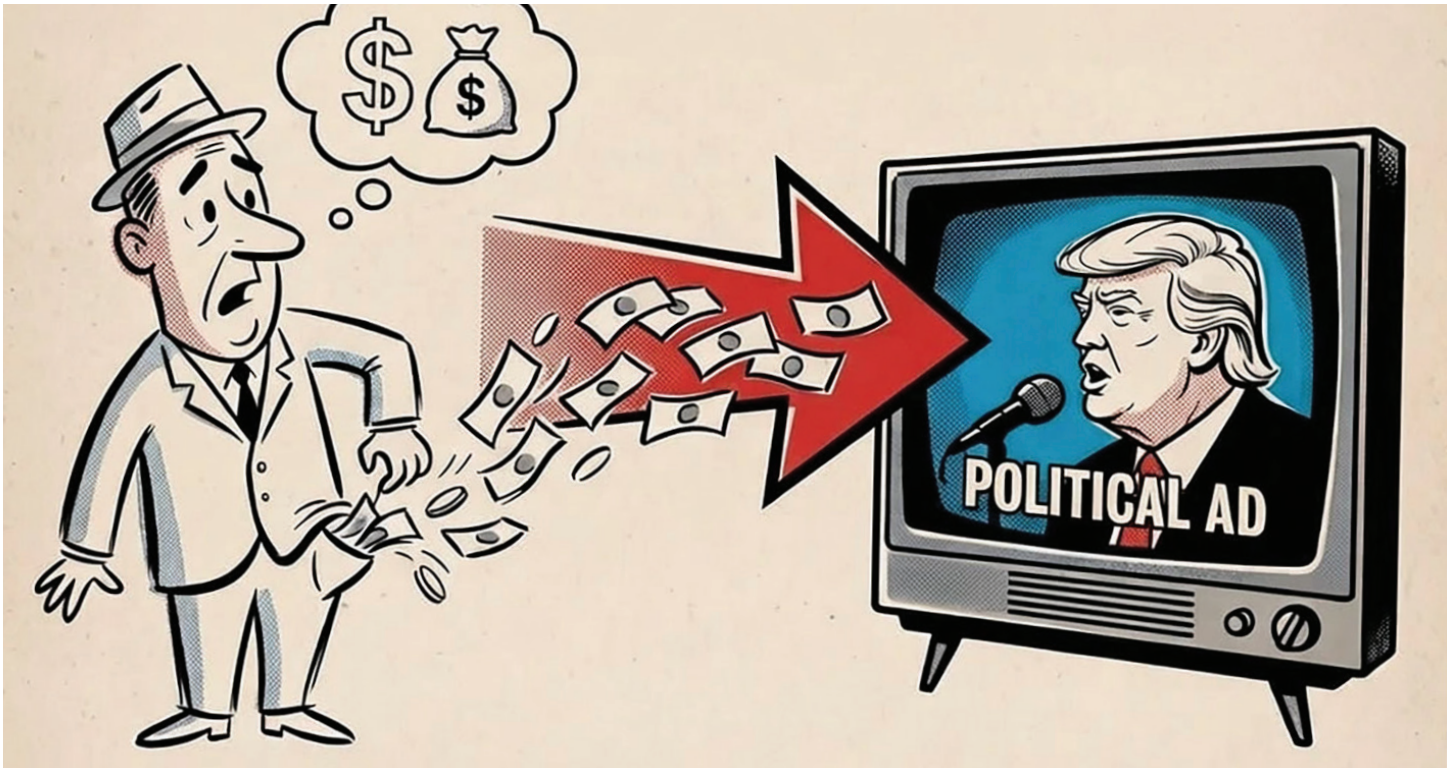




Bad Move

October 5,, 2026

“Because the GOP is in such a bad spot, five weeks out from the midterms,” Ali Velshi [told](#) his *The 11th Hour* audience, “the Trump administration is now also using your taxpayer dollars to air . . . political ads that feature the president.

“Not only is that a blatantly wasteful misuse of taxpayer money,” Velshi continued, “it’s unethical and likely illegal.”

And here is the zinger: “But it’s also a bad political move.”

It’s not every day that I’m this simpatico with an *MS Now* host.

What is Mr. Trump thinking? It’s simply the wrong way to govern: Using the public purse to broadcast pro-yourself messages to the people.

And is there any constituency — outside of Mr. Trump — for these television spots? One that would override the stench from misusing public resources in broad daylight on Fifth Avenue?

The White House calls these ads public service announcements.

The whole thing smacks of leader-worship. Plus, the [messages](#) are purely political. The timing *seems* awfully vote-solicitous: “Together we will defeat.”

The third spot, “[The Final Battle](#),” recycles a 2023 political ad, with Trump promising that (once again) “we” will “demolish the Deep State,” “expel the warmongers from our government,” “drive out the globalists,” “cast out the communists, Marxists and fascists,” and “throw off the sick political class that hates our country” and more.

Trump is not on the ballot, but his policies are. So, by all means, Mr. President, get the word out.

With private funds.

“It’s a great message. I like the message,” Senate Majority Leader John Thune [offered](#), “but it shouldn’t be paid for with taxpayer dollars.”

That’s common sense, I agree. I’m Paul Jacob.